

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
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AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SP
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION TO CAMACHO'S MOSCOW REMARKS

REF: MOSCOW 14020, MADRID 6473,6241

1. PRO-SOVIET REMARKS MADE BY PCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEMBER AND WORKERS COMMISSIONS LEADER MARCELINO CAMACHO AT
THE END OF HIS RECENT EXTENDED VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION
(REFTELS) HAVE STRAINED THE SPANISH PRESS'S CONSIDERABLE
TOLERANCE FOR THE MACHINATIONS OF THE PCE AND ITS LEADER-
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SHIP.

2. ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL PRESS, CAMACHO'S PANEGYRIC, WHICH WAS REPORTED BY TASS, INCLUDED:

--"THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANCES OF THE SOVIET UNION ARE A CONVINCING ILLUSTRATION OF THE ADVANTAGES OF SOCIALISM OVER CAPITALISM."

-- THE PEOPLE OF THE "GREAT COUNTRY OF LENIN," BY TAKING PART IN THE MASS ORGANIZATIONS, THE SOVIETS AND THE UNIONS, "MAKE THEIR PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE CONSTRUCTIVE PLANS WHICH HAVE CONVERTED THEIR COUNTRY INTO A GREAT POWER, A BASTION OF PEACE AND PROGRESS. ONLY THE ENEMIES OF SOCIALISM CAN FAIL TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THESE GREAT FEATS."

3. THE SPANISH PRESS HAS RESPONDED TO CAMACHO'S REMARKS WITH INCREDULITY AND NO LITTLE SARCASM. ACCORDING TO MADRID'S "CAMBIO 16," FOR INSTANCE, CAMACHO'S STATEMENTS HAVE "STUPEFIED" THE COUNTRY AND MUST HAVE "SHAMED" PCE SECGEN SANTIAGO CARRILLO. "CAMBIO" CONTINUES THAT IF CAMACHO WANTS TO TRANSPLANT THE "SOVIET PARADISE" TO SPAIN, HE WILL HAVE TO EXPLAIN TO THE PEOPLE THAT IN THE SOVIET UNION "STRIKES END IN SIBERIA, ONE MUST HAVE A PASSPORT TO TRAVEL FROM OMSK TO TOMSK, THE POLICE ARE ALL-POWERFUL, THE UNIONS ARE A TRANSMISSION BELT FOR THE CPSU, EVERYTHING EXISTS BUT LIBERTY, AND MILLIONS CAN BE PLACED UNDER FORCED LABOR AT ANY TIME." "CAMBIO" CONCLUDES THAT CARRILLO MUST BE THINKING THAT CLANDESTINITY HAS ITS ADVANTAGES: AT LEAST THEN, HE WAS THE ONLY PARTY LEADER WHO SPOKE OUT, AND HE DID NOT HAVE LA PASIONARIA (REFTEL) AND CAMACHO STICKING THEIR FEET IN THEIR MOUTHS.

4. COMMENT: CAMACHO'S MOSCOW FAUX PAS, COMING AS IT DOES IN THE WAKE OF HIS UNMASKING IN ROME AS A PCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER, HAS REINFORCED THE BELIEF OF MANY IN THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION THAT THE BEST WAY TO DEAL WITH THE PCE IS TO GET IT OUT IN THE OPEN AND LET ITS LEADERS COMMIT THEIR BLUNDERS IN THE FULL VIEW OF THE SPANISH PUBLIC.

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